Blair House – July 20, 1986. Copyrighted Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park

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The unnamed interviewer said, “We’re gonna edit this.”

Tape 1, Side 1

1. Interview with Donovan Lewis, interpreting James Marshall

Sawmill finished middle of March, then released the workers

Tried to build grist mill at Sutter’s Fort, never got done

Marshall’s wine venture

Benefit to raise funds to raise old Coloma schoolhouse

Donovan Lewis – historical writer – does living history at MGDSHP in Coloma on Sunday afternoon – opens the old Marshall Cabin from 11am-3pm on Sunday

35-50 people in there on Sunday afternoons

2. Interview with Mary Ella Lewis, interpreting Cora Price Thomas from Coloma

Born in 1875 in Price House – mother and father John and Lonnie (sp?) Price – bought from Mr Fitzpatrick

Father was postmaster at general store for 27 years. She was a “maiden lady” and was given job as postmistress. Married Mr. Thomas in 1906.

… plan to have School House open to visiting classes

3. Interview of Norman Winje

Attended Coloma School House, discussed his teachers, topics. Good detailed investigation of life at the schoolhouse.

“If you have a teacher who will teach you why you use math, that’s your biggest thing right there.”

Discussion of pear crop.

His house was patented in 1883 – the first time you could get a deed to a ranch. Pre-fabbed in Massachusetts, came around the Horn. Struggle for land agricultural vs. miners.

Park tore down the house.

Tape 1, Side 2

4. **Interview with Madeline ____**

Attended a 1-room school in Southeast Colorado. Her stories of schoolhouse experiences. Highlights of her childhood.

Encountered prejudice as Catholic family – but no ugliness in school.

5. **Interview with Dorothy Wentschell (sp?) Wintchell**

Family background.

Experience with 1-room schoolhouse, excellent education. They had more time to go in depth. Great basic foundation. Kids games. Activities after school.

El Dorado High School

6. **Interview with Harry Beckett**

Went to school in 1-room schoolhouse in Missouri. Aspects of the school. World War I. Punishments by teachers. Girls sat on one side and boys on the other side of the schoolhouse.

Continues onto Tape 2, Side 1

The teacher made it an honor for the children to do the chores of the schoolhouse. Wood for fire, clean blackboard and erasers – "that was an honor, to do those things"

Recess, games.

Words of wisdom re: being educated in a one-room school: " Study hard, learn all they can, because all the things you learn in grade school pops up later in life and you need every one of them."